

# Practices should 'put up food warning notices'

Dear editor,

A report by the Pennsylvania department of health regarding a series of cases of *Salmonella* infections traced back to a commercial pet food company making kibble sheds a different light on the article "Vets' food sales 'breach' UK consumer legislation" (June 23 issue). I suggest that vets should now be honour-bound to at least put warning notices for their clients next to the pet food sales areas in their waiting room displays. Many vets who support and promote commercial pet foods give severe warnings to owners who admit to feeding a raw meaty bones (RMB) diet about the dangers such a practice exposes their pets and family to.

If the profession is to be seen to be fair and not under the benign control of commercial interests, then waiting room warnings about kibble should be clearly displayed. Those of us who do advocate RMB diets always warn owners of the necessity to handle raw meat products with the same respect and precautions they would if handling raw meat products for their own table. It would seem this practice should be more widely applied.

Of course, this is not the first and only report of bacterial contamination among commercial pet foods (as well as chemical contamination), and it undermines the bacterial contamination arguments against RMB if vets are advising and selling (especially without warning) products that have the same proven potential.

Yours faithfully,

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